
Preface

This volume of *Environmental Health Perspectives* represents selected papers from the Second International Meeting on Molecular Mechanisms of Metal Toxicity and Carcinogenicity held in Madonna di Campiglio, Italy, January 10–17, 1993. The first meeting was held in September of 1988 in Urbino, Italy.

The organizers of the meeting are very grateful to the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences and to the International Lead and Zinc Research Organization as well as to the Nickel Producers Environmental Research Association for providing funding for this meeting. This meeting offered a unique opportunity for various individuals working in the area of metal toxicity and carcinogenicity to come together to discuss and compare their results. A great deal of interaction occurred among the scientists. The sessions were held in an area conducive to interactions, there were vivid discussions and numerous questions asked. Poster sessions were also held, leading to substantial discussions and scientific interactions. The wonderful food and wine in Italy also contributed to the friendly and interactive ambiance of this conference.

The field of metal carcinogenesis and toxicology is changing with many new investigators entering the field as evidenced by differences in speakers and attendees from the previous meeting. It was a truly international meeting since 22 different countries were represented. This meeting had a more molecular orientation than the previous one. The resulting quality and types of papers presented in this issue was a testimony to the molecular level at which metal toxicology and carcinogenicity is being investigated both in cells and in whole organisms. Such a collection of investigators is seldom found in one place at one time. Thus, the goal of the meeting was met.

This volume is divided into 7 major subsections which include invited presentations. These are: I. Oxidative and Free Radical Effects; II. Genotoxicity; III. Resistance Mechanisms; IV. Carcinogenesis; V. Carcinogenesis and Metallothionein; VI. Toxicity: Molecular and Cellular Aspects and; VII. Toxicity: Organ and Organism.

This is followed by 5 major divisions of poster presentations which include: A. Chromium Toxicology and Carcinogenesis; B. Cadmium Toxicology and Carcinogenesis; C. Nickel and Arsenic Toxicology/Carcinogenesis; D. Mercury Toxicology and; E. Other Topics.

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